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MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
900 East Lynn
Helena, Montana 59601

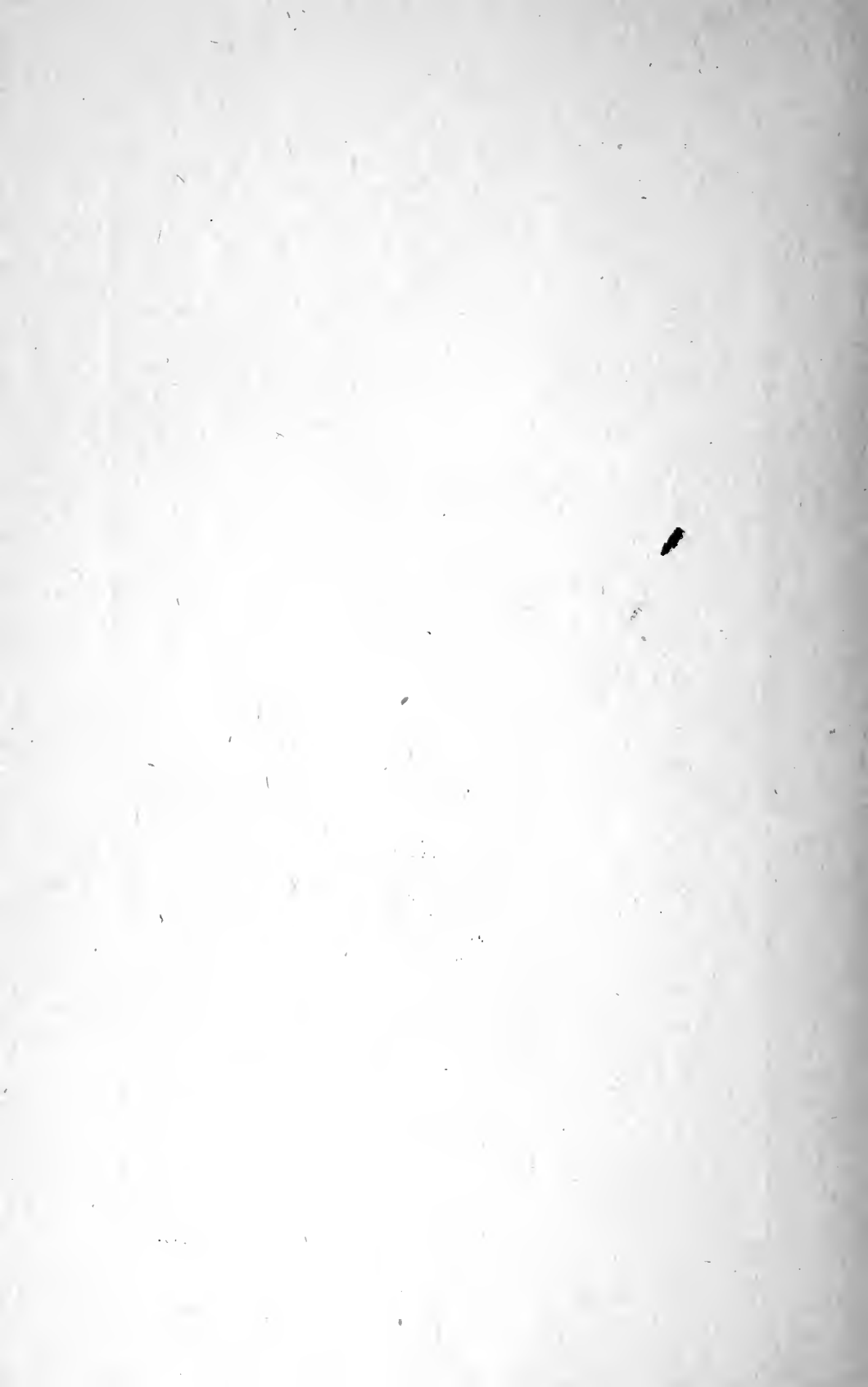
STATE DOCUMENTS

Twenty-Ninth Biennial Report
of the
Board of Trustees
of the

Historical Society
of Montana



1947 - 1948



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NAEGELE PRINTING CO., HELENA, MONT.



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LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY of MONTANA

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**PRESIDENTS AND LIBRARIANS
OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTANA**

From Date of Organization March 25., 1865

PRESIDENTS

Wilbur F. Sanders	1865-1890
Granville Stuart	1890-1895
Cornelius Hedges	1895-1897
William B. Hundley	1897-1903
Massena Bullard	1903-1909
Frank H. Woody	1909-1915
Charles B. Power	1915-1922
J. H. T. Ryman	1922-1926
James T. Stanford	June, August, 1926
Josephine I Hepner	1926-

LIBRARIANS

Granville Stuart	1865-1875
Charles Rumley	1875-1885
William F. Wheeler	1885-1895
Wilbur E. Sanders	1895-1897
Laura E. Howey	1897-1907
William S. Bell	1907-1909
W. Y. Pemberton	1909-1922
James U. Sanders	1922-1923
David Hilger	1923-1937
John B. Ritch	1937-1942
Lucinda B. Scott	1942-

O F F I C E R S
O F T H E
H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y O F M O N T A N A
1 9 4 8

Josephine I. Hepner, President.....	Helena, Montana
Roy Crismas, Vice-President	Missoula, Montana
Charles A. Bovey.....	Great Falls, Montana
Benjamin P. Harwood.....	Billings, Montana
Lucinda B. Scott, Secretary.....	Helena, Montana
Lucinda B. Scott, Librarian.....	Helena, Montana
Anne McDonnell, Assistant Librarian.....	Helena, Montana

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MONTANA
TWENTY - NINTH BIENNIAL REPORT
TO
GOVERNOR SAM C. FORD
1 9 4 8

Helena, Montana
December 1, 1948

Hon. Sam C. Ford,
Governor of Montana
Helena, Montana

Dear Sir:

We have the honor to submit herewith the twenty-ninth biennial report of the Historical Society of Montana for the years 1947-1948 in compliance with statute requirements.

We are respectfully,
Your obedient servants,

JOSEPHINE I. HEPNER,
President,

ROY CRISMAS, Vice-President
CHARLES A. BOVEY
BENJAMIN P. HARWOOD
LUCINDA B. SCOTT, ,Secretary

REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN of the Historical Society of Montana

Helena, Montana
December 1, 1948

To the Board of Trustees of the
Historical Society of Montana,

Mrs. Josephine I. Hepner, President.

Members of the Board:

I have the honor to submit herewith the twenty-ninth biennial report of the Historical Society of Montana for the years 1947-1948.

February 2, 1949 will mark the eighty-fourth year of our existence as a society and the fifty-sixth year as a state department. Because of the great debt we who are now residents of Montana owe to those early pioneers who foresaw the value to future citizens of such a heritage as that which this Historical Society in its library and museum provides, we wish to dedicate this report especially to them, and we hope that it may be a challenge to those who read it to participate in the work of the Society, for only by state-wide interest and cooperation, can we fully realize the objectives of our Society.

In November of 1947, in the death of Miss Luella Watson, the Board of Trustees lost a valuable member who had served the Society faithfully and well in her five years of service. The resolutions adopted by the Board at their annual meeting, February 21, 1948, follow this report. The appointment by Governor Ford of Mr. Charles Bovey of Great Falls to fill this vacancy was one that met with the approval of everyone interested in the welfare of the Historical Society.

Since our objectives and the purpose of our work do not change, this report in many respects is a repetition of former reports. Our prime objective is always the **collection** and **preservation** of historical material concerning particularly Montana and, in a larger field, the Northwest, and one of our most important tasks is to prepare and make this material available to research workers who come to us from many different fields. Some who come are interested solely in some phase of history as it is recorded in newspapers and other source material, some desire a knowledge of historical backgrounds for fiction and stage and cinema reproductions, and some come for information and statistics in economic and other fields. Some of these may be here for only a few hours, others may spend days or weeks. Whatever their needs are, the utmost effort is put forth to meet these and to make available

in the library a quiet place for these students of history to work. It may be a source of interest to the readers of this report to glance through a partial list of those in this category who visited the library during the past biennium. Among these were: Joseph K. Howard, A. B. Guthrie, Jr., Mildred Walker, (Mrs. F. R. Schemm of Great Falls), and Norman Fox, all recognized Montana authors; Dr. E. S. Osgood, Minnesota University; R. G. Athearn, Colorado University; J. C. Ewers, Smithsonian Institution; Miss Dorothy Gardiner, Mr. Costello and Mr. DePaw, research workers and W. W. Getchell, chief counsel, Federal Power Commission; and Mr. S. B. Chase, Great Falls; Mrs. Helen McCann White, Alvord Memorial Commission; Thomas Teakle, author of **Spirit Lake Massacre**, and formerly with the Iowa Historical Society; Mr. and Mrs. Courtenay Terrett, writers; Miss Henry, writer of children's stories; Miss Lucile Kane, Minnesota Historical Society, research on DeSmet; John Bakeless, research on Lewis and Clark expedition; Edgar Stewart, Eastern College of Washington, research on the battle of the Little Big Horn; Mrs. Ruth Borden, editing the McWhorter Collection on the Nez Perce War; Mrs. Samuel Banks, Portland, writing a biography of her father, Henry MacDonald, early Montana resident; Mrs. Winner, Moscow, Idaho, writing a biography of Granville Stuart; Elliott Paul and Tom Ray, both authors of recent books with Montana setting; Gerald Berry, Calgary, research on early Alberta, Canada and Montana relationships; Mr. Grindheim, history of Baptist church in Montana; engineers from Fort Peck, research on flood conditions in Montana, and representatives from the National Park Commission; Dr. Rufus A. Coleman and Dr. Paul C. Phillips, University of Montana; Dr. M. G. Burlingame, Montana State College; numerous graduate students doing research for theses.

The information that we furnish is by no means confined to those who come in person. The daily mail brings numerous requests, some of which can be answered with prepared or printed material, but much of it requires hours or even days of research on the part of the librarians.

During the touring season eighty-five or ninety per cent of the approximately 10,000 persons who visited the Capitol visited the library. The chief attractions were the museum cases of relics in the corridors and the paintings in the library. It was our good fortune a short time ago to be able to buy cheaply two large cases, in which we plan to put items from exhibits stored for lack of cases. In addition, we were given by Mr. Eugene Sanden of Helena, a very fine large show case in which we hope we can house the Audubon sheep recently donated to the state.

During the biennium, the library and the museum have acquired in books and other publications and relics much that is desirable. Many additions have been made to the manuscript and picture files. Lists of these accessions follow. It is interesting to note that some of these gifts

came from persons long removed from the state but who have retained an interest in and a loyalty to Montana.

Our microfilm library is growing slowly. Microfilming, as a process of preserving deteriorating files of newspapers subject to much use, must be adopted by the library before too long or it will be necessary to withdraw some of the older papers from public use. After the initial outlay, this is an inexpensive and space-saving method of preservation.

The library has in its possession original journals kept by early pioneers in the first days of the territory. These are chronicles which would be not only valuable to the student of history but interesting to the average Montanan. The laws of Montana state that the Historical Society shall publish a volume of Contributions **annually**. This cannot be done unless the Legislature allows a sum sufficient for this in its budget. Again we are requesting that such a sum be granted. Eight years have passed since the last volume was published. Eventually a large part of the money expended for publishing a volume of Contributions is returned to the library fund for, after the exchange list is taken care of and a certain part reserved for the future use of the library, the remainder are sold. Of the 10 volumes published since 1876, the library can only supply copies of volumes 4, 5, 6 and 10 to purchasers. Because of the value and scarcity of certain volumes, dealers who have been fortunate enough to collect these books, occasionally have a complete set which they offer for twice or more than the original value. These books have also given the Historical Library and Montana a certain prestige in the world of research.

The printed material gathered from various sources that we send out in answer to requests from both within and without the state makes the library an important advertising agency for Montana.

Our budget requests for the coming biennium have taken into consideration the increased costs of supplies, binding, and other services concerned wholly with the mechanical part of the work of the library and the cost of books. As the library has been enlarged and as the facilities have increased, it has outgrown the class of institution which can be taken care of by only two regular employees. We need, and need desperately, what we might classify for reasons of brevity a stenographer and typist. There are, of course, particular qualifications that would be demanded of such an employee for our work is specialized and this position needs attitudes and aptitudes of an apprentice in our kind of library, and some training in library work.

Two other matters which should receive thoughtful consideration are the following: Since \$2100 is the minimum salary set by the Montana State Library Association for librarians, the salary \$2,400, prescribed by law, for the librarian of the Historical Society, seems totally inadequate to attract qualified persons to that position.

The terms of the five members of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society terminate at the same time. This is an entirely undesirable procedure. The terms should be staggered so that there are always some experienced members on the board. If legislative action is necessary, the attention of the legislature should be directed to this point as well as to that of the librarian's salary.

A state-wide historical society, with a membership interested in the work of the present Historical Society, and affiliated with it in the manner of many of those in other states, would be highly desirable. Efforts to effect this should be commended and encouraged.

In closing may I express my sincere thanks and appreciation:

To Governor Ford and all state departments for their cooperation and courtesy;

To you, the Trustees of the Historical Society of Montana, for your cooperation and unfailing interest in the work of the Society;

To Mrs. Anne McDonnell, Assistant Librarian, whose untiring labor, both in the mechanics of the library and in the field of research, has added greatly to the prestige of the Historical Society of Montana;

To the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers of Lewis and Clark County who sponsored the raising of the fund of \$1,000, which purchased for us the priceless wax model of the DOG TEAM by Charles M. Russell, and to Harvey Fister, the owner, who, refusing higher offers, held the model for us until the money could be raised, and to all the generous persons who contributed to this fund;

And to all others who contributed by gift or cooperative or appreciative interest to our success in achieving our goals.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCINDA B. SCOTT, Librarian.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it has pleased Almighty God to take from our midst Luella Watson, of Watson, Montana,

AND, WHEREAS, said Luella Watson was a native of the Territory of Montana, and a life-long resident of the Territory and of the State of Montana, in the County of Meagher.

AND, WHEREAS, said Luella Watson was from her early womanhood active in the affairs of the State of Montana, as postmistress of the post office of Watson and in frequent clerical appointments for various legislatures of the State of Montana,

AND, WHEREAS, she was markedly active in preserving the relics of Pioneer days and in conserving and perpetuating the Pioneer traditions and customs,

AND, WHEREAS, as the daughter of Montana Pioneers she was for many years a member of the Sons and Daughters of Montana Pioneers and was Meagher County Vice President of that Society,

AND, WHEREAS, said Luella Watson served for three terms as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society of Montana, and was serving as such at the time of her sudden and untimely death,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society of Montana in regular meeting assembled at Helena, Montana, this twenty-first day of February, in the year of Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty-Eight.

THAT, we deeply regret the sudden and untimely death of our colleague, Luella Watson,

THAT, we publicly acknowledge the valuable services rendered as a Trustee of this Board by said Luella Watson, in helping to gather the relics, further the territorial traditions, and preserve the written and photographic records of the territory and the State of Montana,

AND, THAT, we hold up to the emulation of the younger generation of the State of Montana the activities of this native daughter of the State she loved so well.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Board forward a copy of this resolution to the family of said Luella Watson and to the Governor of the State of Montana.

(Signed) JOSEPHINE I. HEPNER
President

(Signed) ROY CRISMAS
Vice-President

(Signed) BEN HARWOOD

(Signed) CHARLES A. BOVEY

ATTEST: LUCINDA B. SCOTT
Secretary

Books Accessioned During July 1946-June 1948

General works, newspapers, periodicals	358
Religion and philosophy	18
Sociology	95
Natural sciences	18
Useful arts	30
Fine arts	3
Literature	46
History and travel	307
Biography	40
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	915

Microfilms

- Butte Bulletin July 4-Nov. 9, 1917.
- Speck, V. L.—History of the Deer Lodge Valley to 1870.
(copy of thesis)
- Barry, Lieut. T. H.—Report of an expedition in southeastern
Montana and western Dakota, Sept. 8-20, 1880.
- Bumby, John—Letters, 1869-1872, written from Silver Star,
Montana, to relatives in England.
- Stuart, Granville—Letterbook, 1880-1886.
- Wheeler, W. F.—Letterbook 1859-1860; 1869-1871.
(Original in library)
- Meagher, T. F.—Letters 1847-1857.

Gifts Other Than Books Received During 1946-1948

Aeronautics Department, U. S.—

Scrap of Japanese balloon which fell in Montana during World War II.

Allen, Mrs. William R.—

Framed picture of William R. Allen.

Alpha Chapter (Helena, Montana) Delta Kappa Gamma—

Figurine of Mary C. Wheeler, pioneer teacher of Helena, Montana.
Prayer book, scrap book and two oil paintings by Miss Wheeler.

American and British Commonwealth Association.

Stone from the House of Commons, London, England.

Balgord, O. P.—Lavina, Montana—

One of the discontinued five dollar bills.

Banks, Mrs. Samuel—Seaside, Oregon—

Wool wristlets knit by Mrs. Louis Riel.

- Berggren, J. L.—Lusk, Wyoming—
Sample of bentonite from southeastern Montana.
- Boone, Bernice—Helena, Montana—
Oil portrait of Blackfoot Indian, Eagle Child, by E. L. Boone.
- Bray, A. F.—Martinez, California—
Photograph of A. F. Bray, Sr., Butte, Montana.
- Burke, Tom—Billings, Montana—
Photograph of house members, 4th, 1895, session of the Montana State Legislature.
- Burton, W. J.—Helena, Montana—
Sample of bentonite, Carter County, Montana.
- Campbell, Joseph D.—Butte, Montana—
Metal tray salvaged from the Miners' Union Hall, Butte, Montana, after explosion of 1914.
- Carbis, S. H.—Worthington, Penn.—
Pictures of Steamboat Helena. (3)
- Casey, Horace—Helena, Montana—
Photographs of early railroad engines. (5)
- Clark, Archie—Great Falls, Montana—
Photographs of historic Montana homes. (8)
- Darling, Mrs. M. W.—Roscoe, California—
Photograph of early day surveying party on the Upper Missouri.
- Delta Chapter (Great Falls, Montana) Delta Kappa Gamma—
Figurine of Helen Edgerton Largent, pioneer school teacher of Great Falls.
- Donovan, Mrs. James—Los Angeles, California—
Framed oil portrait of James Donovan.
- Edwards, L. R.—Butte, Montana—
Photograph of William R. H. Edwards, Butte, Montana, member of the 4th, 1867, Territorial Legislature of Montana.
- Elliott, Elizabeth—La Salle, Illinois.
Copy of Montana News-Letter, May 1, 1869, with letter written by Frank Elliott from Bear Gulch, M. T.
Pictures, Abraham Lincoln, etc. (4)
- Ewers, J. C.—Washington, D. C.—
Photographic copies of sketches by H. Stieffel.

Fisk, James K.—Berkeley, Calif.

Photographs, christening of gunboat, "Helena", Montana groups at the Pan American Exposition, badges, etc.

Oil portrait of James Liberty Fisk "The Scout" by L. Janet White.

Oil portrait of Bob "Montana" Fisk, by L. Janet White, a granddaughter of Capt. R. E. Fisk.

Ford, Governor Sam C.—Helena, Montana—

Framed photograph of the U. S. S. Helena.

Goza, Sam—Helena, Montana—

Oil painting of the Ming home in Helena, Montana.

Hall, E. M.—Helena, Montana—

Framed photograph of self.

Photographs of Theodore Brantly and A. J. Galen.

Hays, Don L.—Omaha, Neb.—

Photograph of his father, George M. Hays.

Holter, Norman—Helena, Montana.

Framed photograph of William Thompson.

Framed photograph of O. J. McConnell.

Killeen, Mrs. J .C.—Livingston, Montana—

Photograph of Comanche, horse of the 7th U. S. Cavalry, sole survivor of the Custer battle.

Lavoie, Fred—Missoula, Montana—

Sled made by Thomas Lavoie.

Lienesch, C. F.—Seattle, Wash.—

Diary of William K. Thomas who was killed by the Sioux Indians on the Yellowstone river in 1866.

Indian arrows and grave markers.

Lubenow, M. L.—Fargo, N. D.—

Filipino and Japanese money.

McDonald, Elizabeth—Butte, Montana—

Photograph of the Washoe smelter, Anaconda, Montana.

McNulty, Flora, estate—Sheridan, Montana—

Photographs, documents, letters, etc. Early day typewriter.

Norris, J. E. estate—Helena, Montana—

Ledgers (2) W. E. Norris and Bros., confectionary business.

Pictures, etc.

Owings, Ralph—Oakland, Calif.—

23 "first day of issue" covers. (stamps)

- Parker, Mrs. Rutledge—Missoula, Montana.
Boy's dress, two years of age, about 1880.
- Pope, J. D.—Helena, Montana—
Maps of Montana. (3)
Posters Chicago World's Fair, 1893.
- Porter, George P.—Helena, Montana—
Photograph, group of Butte people, 1886.
- Royal, P. P.—Drummond, Montana—
Faro card box, brace used by miner in Garnet, Montana.
- Sheehan, Henry—Helena, Montana—
Photograph of Mrs. Josephine Hensley.
- Sherwood, H. K. T.—San Diego, Calif.—
Painting of western scene by William de la M. Cary.
Photograph of Main street, Helena, Montana, 1874.
- Sklower, Josef—Glasgow, Montana—
Plate presented by the Mayor of Berlin on visit of the Pacific
Northwest Friendship train.
- Smethurst, Walter—Roundup, Montana—
One "Bozeman for the Capital" token.
- Smithers, Cliff—Helena, Montana—
First postal money-order issued by the Helena, Montana, post office.
- Sullivan, Jerre—San Anselmo, Calif.—
Framed portrait of his father, Jerre Sullivan, Fort Benton pioneer.
- Thompson, F. N.—Greenfield, Mass.—
Pictures of Mrs. Sidney Edgerton and her daughter, Mattie.
- Tobin, Mrs. Jane Power—Helena, Montana—
Framed photographs of the employees and business associates of
the T. C. Power and Company.
- Toman, J. Fred—Bowers, Montana —
Photograph of cow dead of the drouth of 1934.
- Topping, Mrs. Lucille—Helena, Montana—
Photograph of Richard Dietrich who was killed by Indians in 1877
in Yellowstone National Park.
- Wilson, Mrs. Claude, estate—Helena, Montana—
Framed portraits of Mr. and Mrs. William Chumasero.
Pictures of C. A. Broadwater, the Broadwater Natatorium, etc.
Ledgers, diaries and documents of the Chumasero and Chadwick
law firm, 1864-1889.

